



Reducing Lead Exposure Risk at Campgrounds

Five Year Review of Time Critical Removal Action at Mark Twain National Forest Recreation Sites

AFFECTED CAMPGROUNDS

MADISON COUNTY, MISSOURI

- ◆ Silver Mines Recreation Area
- ◆ Marble Creek Recreation Area

IRON COUNTY, MISSOURI

- ◆ Council Bluff Recreation Area

REYNOLDS COUNTY, MISSOURI

- ◆ Sutton Bluff Recreation Area

CAMPGROUND AVAILABILITY

This review is being conducted while campgrounds are seasonally closed will not effect camping opportunities.

CONTACT

An information repository will be available at the Mark Twain Supervisors Office:

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Five year review of TCRA

The Forest Service plans to review the protectiveness of a CERCLA Time Critical Removal Action after elevated levels of lead (Pb) were discovered. This protectiveness review will allow us to determine if any additional work needs to be conducted at these sites.

Lead exposure

Exposure to lead usually occurs from ingesting or inhaling soil or dust containing lead. Young children and pregnant women are the most sensitive to exposure. Lead may affect the nervous system and can cause learning and behavioral problems in young children

The risks of lead exposure at these sites are generally considered to be low, especially if you are only at these sites a couple of times a year. The actions we are taking are intended to reduce exposure risks even for people with young children who intend to visit the recreation sites most weeks of the year.

Tips to avoid lead exposure

- Wash hands using soap and water before eating, drinking, or smoking. Bottled water or baby wipes, can be used if there is no running water. Hand sanitizer IS NOT EFFECTIVE. (INGESTION)
- Avoid digging or playing in the dirt and crushed rock at the campground. (INHALATION & INGESTION)
- Clean toys, camping equipment, clothing, shoes, pets, and vehicles upon returning home. (INHALATION & INGESTION)

How this action came about

In 2012, The Mark Twain National Forest completed soil sampling in many areas of Southeast Missouri lead mining area. A few recreation sites were found to have elevated concentrations of lead, but there was not a clear trend indicating where we would find lead.

In Fall 2014, we partnered with the Missouri Department of Natural Resources to sample every campsite and day-use area at in the area for lead (Pb) in surface soil and crushed rock, which led to the current action.

In the Summer of 2015, we capped contaminated areas at 100 campsites and day use areas. The intent of this action is to reduce human contact with lead in soils by putting down a layer of clean material that has low lead concentrations. This project was a clean-up action under the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (CERCLA) and is categorized as a Time Critical Removal Action